

Public drinking and vagrancy top agenda

MIKA WILLIAMS

Councillors have supported a call for speed humps in both Hamilton and De Wet streets in Goodwood.

Ward 26 and 27 councillors supported the motion at the Parow Sub-council meeting.

Following complaints from residents, Ward 27 councillor Cecile Janse van Rensburg received a request in July for traffic-calming measures to stop “reckless driving and speeding” along Hamilton Street before someone was killed.

Ms Janse van Rensburg said she had also had a complaint about

traffic congestion in and around Fairbairn College in Goodwood.

Ward 26 councillor Franchesca Walker also called for speed humps along De Wet Road in Goodwood after getting a request from a resident in August.

The meeting also heard 12 applications to extend liquor trading hours. While they voiced concern about public drunkenness and vagrancy near bottle stores in the area, Ms Janse van Rensburg and Ms Walker approved the extension of liquor trading hours, from 6pm until 8pm from Monday to Saturday, for Liquor City in Parow Valley and from 11am until 6pm for Sunday trading at Top

Cellars along Voortrekker Road in Goodwood.

“Crime is impacting on that community. The owners of these liquor outlets are making money, and we, as ward councillors, are ridiculed for extending these liquor trading hours,” Ms Walker said.

Ms Walker said she was concerned about Liquor City’s proximity to Northlink College in Parow.

“I have asked the college to compile all their complaints so that we can make sure that the best interests of the community are taken into account when making these types of decisions,” she

said. Ms Janse van Rensburg said vagrancy was a problem in the Voortrekker Road area. “We have to clean up that corridor along Voortrekker Road. The vagrancy does not affect liquor trading, but the anti-social behaviour does affect the surrounding community,” she said.

A late item relating to the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) was also tabled at the meeting.

Wilfred Solomons Johannes, of the City’s urban management directorate, said job-seeker-registration drives held during September had identified high unemployment rates in Good-

wood, Parow and surrounds but many job seekers “fall through the cracks” because their details on the City’s database were out of date. “This Sub-council should identify the need and opportunities in the community so that we can lobby certain line departments to create much-needed job opportunities in the area,” he said.

Sub-council 4 actioned 3 818 service requests last month of which 3 556 were closed; 152 are still in process and 110 are outstanding.

● Sub-council 4’s next meeting will be on Thursday October 17, at 10am.